

Remarks

Applicants have indicated the cancellation of non-elected claims by the use of a bracket instead of the strike-through mark used previously. Applicants reiterate that non-elected species of Claim 1 wherein R³ is -CH₂-, -O-, -S-, and -C(=O)- on page 3 have been cancelled.

Applicants have also amended the phrase "prodrug derivative" to the term "prodrug."

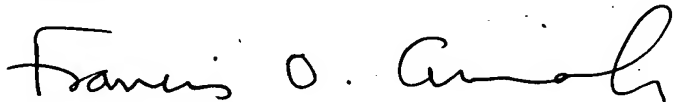
By the foregoing amendments, Applicants believe the Section 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph rejections for Claims 1-6, 9, 14, 18 and 22-24 have been overcome.

Examiner has newly rejected Claim 24 under 35 U.S.C., 1st paragraph because "the specification while being enabling for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in a mammal does not reasonably provide enablement of all inflammatory diseases in a mammal." Applicants, for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution, have amended Claim 24 as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicants believe that no new matter has been added by operation of the amendments herein, and that Claims 1-6, 9, 14, 18 and 22-24 should be in condition for allowance.

Applicants thank the Examiner for her suggestions and ask that the attorney of record be contacted should there be any outstanding matters resolvable by phone.

Respectfully submitted,



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